



FEMA

Fact Sheet

Federal Preparedness Report

Background

The Federal Preparedness Report (FPR) is a congressionally required report on the Nation's level of preparedness for all hazards, including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

The FPR highlights the progress achieved by the national homeland security community over the past five years and illustrates a national snapshot of current preparedness levels in planning, organization, equipment, training, exercises, and evaluation.

The FPR is a requirement of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA) of 2006, which articulated new expectations for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), established new leadership responsibilities, brought an expanded scope of missions, and called for FEMA to undertake a broad range of activities in all-hazards approach to preparedness.

The FPR provides an empirically-driven, account of national preparedness based on a widespread collaboration of data collection and sharing across a multitude of DHS programs. Data and subsequent analyses have been incorporated into the Report to present the most accurate evaluation of preparedness currently feasible. By focusing on information-sharing practices and reporting in this manner, the FPR itself becomes a "living" document, whereby additional sources can be used to expand its scope on an annual basis. Ultimately, the FPR will be an indispensable tool for all preparedness entities across federal, state and local levels.

Upon its release, the FPR will include the following

- An assessment of how federal assistance, including grants, training, and other forms of assistance, has supported national preparedness efforts at all levels of government
- Findings generated from a comprehensive assessment of national preparedness
- A review of the inventory contained in the Federal Response Capability Inventory
- Assessments of the achievement of National Preparedness Priorities and the resources needed to meet and sustain these priorities

Measuring National Preparedness

The FPR will include current and relevant data available from FEMA and state and federal homeland security partners to present the most accurate picture of the Nation's preparedness. The FPR will also demonstrate that we are a Nation "Better Prepared" as a result of our collective preparedness efforts to plan, organize, equip, train, exercise, evaluate and improve.

Potential Sensitivities

In developing the FPR, FEMA integrated a wealth of data that federal, state, and local partners have provided over the past five years into a single snapshot of preparedness. Although the FPR relies entirely on Federal, State, and local data submissions that do not pose security threats, the collection of these data in a single document might be viewed as





sensitive by some jurisdictions and stakeholders. For example, the numbers of fusion centers housed in each State may not be sensitive individually, but may pose a potential security risk when aggregated. The report categorizes several types of preparedness data by FEMA Region, individual States, and individual urban areas. These data might be viewed as particularly sensitive since each of these measures varies considerably, which may cause discomfort among State governors and other representatives affiliated with States in underrepresented regions:

Data associated with individual FEMA Regions

- National Incident Management (NIMS) compliance. Although an explanation is given for this outlier, FEMA Region IX is identified as having less than 100% compliance with NIMS metrics.
- The number of authorized full-time FEMA Regional personnel. Areas of the country with fewer FEMA Regional personnel might be viewed as being neglected by DHS/FEMA.
- Citizen Corps coverage. Areas with fewer Citizen Corps Councils might be seen as being disengaged or less prepared than Regions with significant coverage.

Data associated with individual States

- The number of fusion centers in operation. The definition of a “fusion center” is not universally agreed upon, thus state representatives might contest these numbers.
- Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) levels. This map showcases states that

have achieved EMAP accreditation, but also clearly indicates States that have not done so.

- CDC Pandemic Influenza funding levels. Aggregated funding data clearly show variations across states.
- Requests for inclusion in the Training Exercise Integration State-sponsored course catalog. States submitting fewer requests might be misinterpreted as having a weak interest in training opportunities and development.
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program plan type. Since States with Enhanced Mitigation plans can receive a greater amount of funding than States with Basic plans, this map shows differing levels of funding eligibility across States.

Data associated with individual metropolitan areas

- Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICP) Standard Operating Procedure implementation status. This map clearly indicates Urban Areas that have either no TICP or less-than-complete TICP implementation.
- Participation in the High-Risk Metropolitan Area Interoperability Assistance Project. States shown as not participating in this project might be viewed as having a lack of interest or involvement in pursuing interoperability solutions.
- Health care facilities partnerships. States without these partnerships might be viewed as lacking critical medical surge and/or mass care resources.
- DHS training partners (e.g., National Domestic Preparedness Consortium, Centers





of Excellence,

- Competitive Training Grant Program).
- Whereas some States contain numerous DHS training partners, other States have none.

Report Limitations and Scope

Due to the uniqueness of this effort and the immense task of collecting data from numerous program areas and stakeholders, this first version of the FPR does not include a comprehensive collection of all information relevant to Federal preparedness capabilities. Even though a specific capability may not be referenced in the FPR, this does not reflect an intentional omission. Instead, it speaks to the fact that this Report was not intended to analyze specific equipment, plans, or other capabilities in detail. Moreover, the majority of information in the FPR has been provided by FEMA, which corresponds to this information being the most readily available data for this first version of the Report. It does not, in any way, express that DHS/FEMA regards Federal preparedness as the sole responsibility or jurisdiction of FEMA. In addition, most of the information presented in the FPR is based upon outputs, rather than outcomes. In other words, the information reported provides insight into the direct results of programs or initiatives, relative to their specific program objectives, but does not completely capture the effects of those activities on enhanced national preparedness. As preparedness metrics and measures are improved in the future, it is anticipated that more outcome-related data will become available.

Future Plans

The FPR information-gathering process identified strengths and challenges to better inform subsequent annual Reports, which will enable DHS to provide continual performance assessments on all key preparedness elements supporting a dynamic National Preparedness System. As reporting mechanisms and data collection continue to evolve, the FPR will provide an additional opportunity for expanded dialogue with our State, local, tribal, and territorial partners. Through annual delivery of the FPR, DHS will not only have a resource that showcases achievements in preparedness efforts, it will also provide Congress with a tool for gauging overall progress in meeting preparedness objectives throughout DHS.

FEMA leads and supports the nation in a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation, to reduce the loss of life and property and protect the nation from all hazards including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

